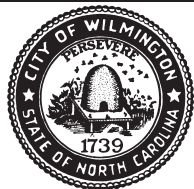




City of Wilmington  
P.O. Box 1810  
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Wilmington, NC 28402

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Public Information Report

TDD 341-7873  
TTY 771

#### Wilmington City Council

Mayor and City Council ..... 341-7815  
Bill Saffo, Mayor  
Jim Quinn, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Pat Delair  
Lethia S. Hankins  
Laura W. Padgett  
Earl Sheridan, Ph.D.  
Jason R. Thompson

**City Manager** ..... 341-7810  
Sterling Cheatham

**Editor** ..... 342-2736  
Malissa Talbert

**Contributing Staff:** *Becky Blue, Debi Haynes,  
Dylan Lee, Kazu Takeda, LeeAnne Haggerty (intern)*

**The Public Information Report** is published by the City of Wilmington. Questions or comments may be directed to the City of Wilmington Communications Office at City Hall, 102 North Third Street, Wilmington, NC 28402

**The city on the web**  
[www.wilmingtonnc.gov](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov)

#### General Information Phone Numbers

Citizen Services Information ..... 341-7800  
Emergency ..... 911  
Police/Non-Emergency ..... 343-3600  
Fire/Non-Emergency ..... 341-7846  
Parks and Recreation ..... 341-7855  
Parks Hotline ..... 341-7852  
Street Maintenance ..... 341-7879  
Parking ..... 762-5678  
Zoning ..... 254-0900  
Trash pickup/Recycling ..... 341-7875  
Stormwater ..... 341-4646  
Water and Sewer Billing ..... 341-7805  
Code Enforcement ..... 341-3266  
City's website ..... [www.wilmingtonnc.gov](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov)

#### City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are generally held on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. and are open to the public. There is time for public information at each Council meeting; interested persons can sign up to speak for up to five minutes by filling out a form at the City Clerk's Office located in City Hall. Requests will be taken until noon the day before the meeting. Meetings are held in City Council Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall at 102 N. Third Street. Agendas for upcoming meetings are posted on the city web site at [www.wilmingtonnc.gov](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov)

#### City Council Meetings on GTV8

Council meetings are broadcast live on GTV8, the City Channel on Timewarner cable. Council meetings are replayed at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the week of the meeting, as well as 11:30 p.m. the following week.

#### This Week From City Hall

You can catch a summary of City events and activities on GTV8's "This Week From City Hall," airing twice daily at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m., beginning the Friday evening after every Council meeting. For questions about programming on GTV8, contact Station Manager Dylan Lee at 341-4675.

#### GTV8 online

City Council meetings, Planning Commission meetings, "This Week From City Hall," and all other GTV8 programming can be found on the City's website, live or on-demand. From the front page, simply click on "online videos." Then, select the program you want to watch. If you are looking for a particular Council meeting agenda item, you can select the item from a drop-down menu after choosing your desired meeting date. You can also do a keyword search for the item. Windows Media Player version 9 or higher is required to view the videos.

Look for the  for information

# CITY OF WILMINGTON NORTH CAROLINA

City of Wilmington Public Information Report

WINTER 2008  
Volume 5 Number 1

#### Inside this Issue:

Sewer Repairs  
Police Officer Graduation  
Fire and Life Safety  
LED Lights  
Graffiti Ordinance



#### Don't Miss Holiday Events...

#### 78th Annual World's Largest Living Christmas Tree Lighting

Hilton Park  
407 Hilton Street  
Thursday, December 6  
6:00 pm

#### Naughty or Nice? Visit Santa!

Hilton Park  
407 Hilton Street  
December 6-9  
December 14-16  
December 21-23  
6:00 - 8:30 pm

#### 5th Annual Holiday Parade

Historic Downtown Wilmington  
Sunday, December 9  
5:25 pm



341-4602

[www.wilmingtonnc.gov](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov)

#### Thank you Wilmington!

## City water use reduced significantly

City water use has dropped significantly since August, including a 15% reduction after the mandatory water restrictions began on October 16. Such restrictions are taking place across the state as Gov. Mike Easley has asked cities to save their dwindling water supplies and avoid more stringent restrictions this spring. New Hanover County is currently at level D3, or extreme drought, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Although the city has an adequate supply of water now, no significant rainfall is predicted through the winter, meaning the water supply could be seriously low this spring. Water restrictions apply to all those using the city's water supply.

Following a warning period, repeat violators of the water restrictions will be subject to a civil citation of \$500. Although the restrictions do not apply to private wells, the City is urging all customers to limit their usage of water from any source.

#### Did you know?

Simple lifestyle changes can save millions of gallons of water. If each person in Wilmington used just five gallons less each day (equivalent to approximately 2 toilet flushes), a total of 625,000 gallons could be saved each day.

*Turn the page for more information on saving water.*

The City of Wilmington has set up a special hotline and e-mail address for citizens to ask questions or report violations of the mandatory water conservation restrictions.

**Conservation Hotline: (910) 341-0114**  
**Email: [conserveh2o@wilmingtonnc.gov](mailto:conserveh2o@wilmingtonnc.gov)**



As a result of the water restrictions, the City of Wilmington has turned off irrigation systems at all city athletic fields. A City employee rakes the pitcher's mound at Buck Hardee Field.

#### Following are a few of the activities prohibited under these mandatory water restrictions:

- Watering lawns, grass, shrubbery, trees, flowers, and vegetable gardens except by hand-held hoses, container, or drip irrigation system.
- Washing any type of mobile equipment, including cars, trucks, trailers, boats or airplanes. Car washes may continue to operate.
- Filling swimming or wading pools.
- Serving drinking water in food establishments such as restaurants or cafeterias, unless specifically requested by a customer.





## Water use it wisely

*There are a number of ways to save and they all start with YOU.*

The City is a partner of the national Water Use It Wisely campaign. There are more than 100 ways to save water. For the complete list, log on to [www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com) and [www.wilmingtonnc.gov](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov), or give us a call at 343-3691.

### Water-saving tips:

- #2. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with water and the other with rinse water.
- #10. Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap for cold drinks, so that every drop goes down you not the drain.
- #17. Collect the water you use for rinsing produce and reuse it to water houseplants.
- #19. We're more likely to notice leaky faucets indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, pipes, and hoses for leaks.
- #75. Drop that tissue in the trash instead of flushing it and save gallons every time.
- #83. Wash clothes only when you have a full load and save up to 600 gallons each month.

 [www.wilmingtonnc.gov](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov)  
Water conservation tips

## Sewer repairs are well underway

The three major projects to repair and improve the Northeast Interceptor (NEI) sewer pipeline are well underway, with most work expected to be completed in January. All three of these projects, totaling \$5 million, have been fast tracked because of the ongoing moratorium on sewer extensions and the limit on new building permits. Following is a brief summary:

### Hewlett's Creek pipe replacement

**Description:** Replace more than one mile of pipe that currently runs through Hewlett's Creek.

**Status:** Pipe installation along Mockingbird Lane and the Municipal Golf Course has been completed. Pipe installation along Pine Grove Drive is expected to occur in December.



### Greenville Loop Road

**Description:** Repair almost one-half mile of the NEI that runs along Greenville Loop Road, replace air release valves, replace manholes at Hewlett's Creek pump station.

**Status:** Nine out of 10 air release valves have been replaced. Manhole replacement at the pump station started in November.

### Pump Station Improvements

**Description:** Install bigger pumps at Bradley Creek and Hewlett's Creek pump stations to increase reliability and capacity.


**Status:** All pumps have been purchased and delivered. The Hewlett's Creek pump installation is almost complete and the Bradley Creek installation continues.

## Downtown pipes to get major overhaul

Along with a review and repairs to the Northeast Interceptor (NEI) force main, the sewer system for the rest of the city has been assessed as well. The review found that repairs and upgrades to the aging downtown infrastructure are needed. Preliminary investigations for the downtown infrastructure are complete, with the final design expected to be complete in approximately six months. Downtown water pipes and stormwater pipes are also being assessed. Because repair and replacement of water, sewer and stormwater pipes involves digging up streets, work on all these systems will be coordinated as much as possible to minimize disruptions.



*Crews measure the depth of a manhole downtown as they prepare to conduct closed-circuit tv review of the line.*

 **Sewer**  
341-7884 Hotline  
341-7805 Infoline

## City saves money and energy with LED lights


The city is trying out a new type of money-saving, energy-efficient light bulb in street lamps, traffic signals and pedestrian signals. Over the past two years, the city has been switching traffic signal displays from 115-watt bulbs to 20-watt LEDs. The switchover reduced traffic signal energy use by about 75%, saving approximately \$7,000 annually.

New 27-watt LED units have been installed in 11 decorative lights along the 100 block of North Third Street.

Citizens can provide feedback on the new LED lights by sending an email to [streetlights@wilmingtonnc.gov](mailto:streetlights@wilmingtonnc.gov). If this trial works as expected, additional fixtures will be replaced over the next few years.



*In addition to energy efficient LED pedestrian signals and traffic signals, LED streetlights have been installed downtown.*

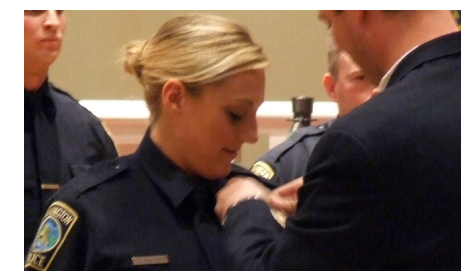
 **Provide feedback:**  
[streetlights@wilmingtonnc.gov](mailto:streetlights@wilmingtonnc.gov)

## Cadets graduate from basic law enforcement training (BLET)

Fourteen cadets graduated from the Basic Law Enforcement Training ceremony, held November 16 at City Hall. The BLET is offered by the Wilmington Police Department and covers more than 30 topics including arrest, search and seizure and firearms. Recruits must successfully complete the 16-week course, pass a physical agility test and written exam.

These new officers will hit the streets with a Police Training Officer (PTO) and upon satisfactory performance of the PTO program, will then be released to work solo.

For more information about the BLET, contact the Wilmington Police Department Recruitment Office.



Nicole Malatesta



Lonnie T. Waddell, Jr.

Jonathan Poplin

 **343-3651**  
WPD Recruitment




## Fire and life safety education programs

The Wilmington Fire Department provides several educational activities for citizens, including training for:


- Babysitters
- Babysitter Checklist
- Bicycles
- Car Seats
- Residential Fire Sprinklers
- Older Adult Fire and Fall Prevention

If you would like to learn more about home fire prevention or schedule a fire extinguisher class for your business or community group, contact the Fire and Life Safety office.

 **343-4784**  
Fire and Life Safety

## Graffiti ordinance

Graffiti is not only unsightly, it is costly to taxpayers and decreases property values. It can also lead to other criminal activity. A new ordinance, passed in late 2006, places the responsibility of graffiti removal on the property owner. If the graffiti is not removed or covered by the property owner within 15 days, the City may issue a \$100 per day citation. One-time grant funding is available for low-income property owners to help with graffiti removal costs. Graffiti and other code enforcement violations should be reported to the city's Code Enforcement office.

 **341-3266**  
Code Enforcement